

RECEIVED

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED

SEP 1 3 2002

Patent Docket P3230R1C112

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Dan L. Eaton et al.

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: 10/063670

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

Filed: 5/7/2002

September 4, 2002

Patricia Terrill

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above captioned patent application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered.

In the specification:

Please delete the paragraph at page 1, line 2, that was previously added by preliminary amendment.

Please insert the following new paragraph at page 1, line 2:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 10/006867 filed 12/6/2001, which is a continuation of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, PCT Application PCT/US00/23328 filed 8/24/2000, which is a continuation-in-part of, and claims priority under 35 USC §120 to, US Application 09/380139 filed 8/25/1999, now abandoned, which is the National Patent Docket: P3230R1C112

Serial No.: 10/063670

Filed: 5/7/2002

Stage filed under 35 USC §371 of PCT Application PCT/US98/19330 filed 9/16/1998, which claims priority under 35 USC §119 to US Provisional Application 60/064215 filed 10/29/1997.--